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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Mariëtte BOLKENBAAS et al.

Serial No. (unknown)

Filed herewith

BLEACH ACTIVATOR BASED ON INULIN

#4A  
RE 9L

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the first Official Action and calculation of the filing fee, please substitute Claims 1-10 as originally filed, which appear on page 9, with Claims 1-10 as filed in the Article 34 amendment of June 26, 2001. The page containing Claims 1-10 is marked "AMENDED SHEET" and is attached hereto. Following the insertion of Claims 1-10, please amend these claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-7 and 10 as follows:

--1. (Amended) A method of activating bleach comprising the step of combining with the bleach a partially acylated fructan having a degree of substitution with acyl groups of 0.4-2.5 and a degree of substitution of less than 0.5 with other substituents.

A 1

2. (Amended) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the fructan is acylated with C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> acyl groups.